

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A hand towed piece of luggage comprising:

a piece of luggage having a top face;

at least one wheel connected to the piece of luggage, said wheel having a wheel rotation axis;

a towing arm including a pole, said pole having a length with opposite proximal and distal ends, said distal end of said pole being arranged to move from a retracted position to an extended position; and

a towing handle having a grip portion with a principal dimension, said towing handle operatively connected to said distal end of said towing arm and pivotable about at least two pivot axes relative to said distal end of said pole when said pole in said extended position;

wherein, in said retracted position, said grip portion is arranged so said principal dimension is generally perpendicular to said wheel rotation axis and generally parallel to the top face.

2. (original) The hand towed piece of luggage of claim 1, further comprising:

one of said at least two pivot axes being oriented substantially parallel to said wheel rotation axis.

3. (original) The hand towed piece of luggage of claim 1, further comprising:

said at least two pivot axes comprising a first axis and second axis that intersect each other in generally perpendicular relation.

4. (original) The hand towed piece of luggage of claim 1, wherein said movement between said retracted and said extended position is telescoping movement.

5. (original) The hand towed piece of luggage of claim 4, further comprising:

said pole being comprised of at least two telescoping sections that are slidably attached to each other for relative telescoping movement.

6. (original) The hand towed piece of luggage of claim 4, further comprising

a locking mechanism operatively connected to said pole so said pole can be locked in said extended position.

7. (original) The hand towed piece of luggage of claim 1 wherein said towing arm is a dual-pole towing arm including at least two poles.

8. (cancelled)

9. (currently amended) A hand towed piece of luggage comprising:

a piece of luggage defining a receptacle;

at least one wheel connected to the piece of luggage, said wheel having a wheel rotation axis;

a towing arm including a pole, said pole having a length with opposite proximal and distal ends, said distal end of said pole being arranged to move from a retracted position to an extended position;

a towing handle having a grip portion with a principal dimension, said towing handle being operatively connected to said distal end of said towing arm and pivotable about at least three pivot axes relative to said distal end of said towing ~~arm~~: arm;

wherein, in said retracted position, said grip portion is arranged so said principal dimension is generally perpendicular to said wheel rotation axis; and

wherein said grip portion is nested in said receptacle when in the retracted position in a generally coplanar relationship with a face of the piece of luggage.

10. (original) The piece of luggage of claim 9 wherein at least two of said axes are parallel to each other.

11. (original) The piece of luggage of claim 9 wherein at least two of said axes are perpendicular to each other.

12. (original) The piece of luggage of claim 9 wherein said towing handle is connected to said distal end of said towing arm via a pivot mechanism comprising: a knuckle; and an intermediate arm having an upper portion and a lower portion with a length therebetween; wherein, said handle rotates about a first of said at least three axes of rotation relative to said knuckle; wherein said knuckle rotates about a second of said at least three axes of rotation relative to said intermediate arm; and wherein said intermediate arm rotates about a third of said at least three axes of rotation relative to said towing arm.

13. (original) The piece of baggage of claim 12 wherein said first axis of rotation and said second axis of rotation are perpendicular.

14. (original) The piece of baggage of claim 12 wherein said third axis of rotation and said second axis of rotation are parallel.

15. (original) The piece of baggage of claim 12 wherein when said towing arm is in said retracted position said principal dimension of said grip portion and said length of said intermediate arm are arranged generally parallel to each other.

16. (original) The piece of baggage of claim 12 wherein when said towing arm is in said retracted position said principal dimension of said grip portion and said towing arm are arranged generally perpendicular to each other

17. (original) The piece of baggage of claim 12 wherein said luggage is of generally parallelepiped shape having a top face and a back face.

18. (original) The piece of baggage of claim 17 wherein when said towing arm is in said retracted position, said principal dimension of said grip portion is generally parallel to said top face.

19. (original) The piece of baggage of claim 18 wherein when said towing arm is in said retracted position, said principal dimension of said grip portion is generally co-planar to said top face.

20. (original) The piece of baggage of claim 18 wherein when said towing arm is in said retracted position, said length of said intermediate arm is generally parallel to said top face.

21. (original) The piece of baggage of claim 18 wherein when said towing arm is in said retracted position, said principal dimension of said grip portion is generally arranged at about a 90 degree angle with said towing arm.

22. (original) The piece of baggage of claim 17 wherein when said towing arm is in said retracted position, said principal dimension of said grip portion is generally parallel to said back face.

23. (previously presented) The piece of baggage of claim 22 wherein when said towing arm is in said retracted position, said grip portion is generally co-planar to said back face.

24. (original) The piece of luggage of claim 9 wherein said towing arm is a dual-pole towing arm including at least two poles.

25. (original) The piece of luggage of claim 24 wherein said poles are connected at their distal ends by a bridge.

26. (original) The piece of luggage of claim 25 wherein at least one of said at least three axes is parallel to said bridge.

27. (original) The piece of luggage of claim 26 wherein at least one of said at least three axes is collinear with said bridge.

28. (previously presented) A hand towed piece of luggage comprising:

a piece of luggage arranged to generally be a parallelepiped and having a top face and a bottom face on opposite sides thereof;

a pair of wheels connected to the piece of luggage toward said bottom face thereof, said pair of wheels having a fixed wheel rotation axis;

a towing arm including a telescoping pole, said pole having a length with opposite proximal and distal ends, said distal end of said pole being arranged to move from a retracted position to an extended position; and

a towing handle connected to said distal end of said towing arm so as to be able to rotate about said distal end of said towing arm, said towing handle including a grip portion with a principal dimension, said towing handle operatively connected to said distal end of said towing arm for pivoting movement of said towing handle about at least two pivot axes relative to said distal end of said pole in said extended position;

wherein, in said retracted position, said grip portion is arranged so said principal dimension is generally perpendicular to said wheel axis and said principal dimension is generally parallel to said top face.

29. (previously presented) A hand towed piece of luggage comprising:

a piece of luggage arranged to generally be a parallelepiped and having a top face and a bottom face on opposite sides thereof, the top face including a receptacle;

a pair of wheels connected to the piece of luggage toward said bottom face thereof, said pair of wheels arranged to rotate about a common rotational axis for towing of the piece of luggage;

a towing arm including an extendable pole, said pole having an axial length with opposite proximal and distal ends, said distal end of said pole being arranged to move from a retracted position to an extended position relative to the top face of the piece of luggage; and

a towing handle connected to said distal end of said towing arm so as to be able to rotate about said distal end of said towing arm, said towing handle including a grip portion with a principal dimension, said towing handle operatively connected to said distal end of said towing

arm and pivotable about at least two pivot axes relative to said distal end of said pole in said extended position;

wherein, in said retracted position, said grip portion is arranged so said principal dimension is generally perpendicular to said wheel axis and said principal dimension is generally parallel to said top face; and

wherein in said retracted position, the grip portion is nested into said receptacle in said top face.